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8th. That *Phyllosticta labruscæ* and *Phoma uvicola* are identical, an important fact in considering the question of treatment.

9th. That of finding the mature form of *Ramularia Tulasnei*, or *Sphaerella Fragariæ*. The perithecia with their fully developed asci and ascospores were found on specimens communicated by Mr. Frank Earl, in the winter of 1886. Later, the fungus was found in all its stages on one and the same leaf. Microscopical preparations have been made which exhibit all the forms in a single section.

10th. That of finding early in December the living mycelium of *Roestelia penicellata* in the tissues of apple twigs, and its evident growth from the latter into prematurely forming leaves, for upon the latter, which were scarcely more than an inch in length, well developed spermagonia were noted December 7th. The shoot bearing these leaves had, at this date, been kept partly immersed in water in a warm room for one week. The twigs in question were from a tree which, for a succession of years, has had its foliage badly infested with the *Roestelia*. This fact was somewhat surprising owing to its isolated location, far from any Juniperus or cedar. The matter is easily explained, however, if the mycelium of the fungus is perennial within the host.

11th. That *Uredo ficus* is injurious to the foliage of the fig tree in several localities in Florida.

12th. That of finding *Puccinia pruni spinosæ*, attacking the leaves of peach trees in Texas and southern California, causing more or less injury. This fungus has been found also on the wild goose plum and the native plum in Texas, and on apricots.—F. LAMSON SCRIBNER, *Chief of the Section of Vegetable Pathology, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., Dec.* 8, 1887.

A handy herbarium.—The practical study of botany is often much hindered by the amount of trouble many of us busy men find in the handling of our specimens. Many an hour's work has been turned by the present busy laborer to other studies because, having at his disposal only a few moments, so much of the time will needs be spent in hunting up what is wanted.

In this western country houses are not, as in New England, of many and large rooms. So my specimens, identified, unidentified and for exchange, have been forced, by dire necessity, to a space close under a roof, dark, low and hard to reach. It becomes, therefore, a necessity to invent something that will not take up much room, and yet will hold several hundred specimens in natural arrangement where they can be examined at a moment's notice. Here is the way in which the writer solved the enigma for a very few cents: The materials necessary are four uprights five feet high, two and one half inches broad, and one-fourth of an inch thick; twelve pieces of the same width and thickness twenty-eight inches long; and twelve similar pieces eighteen inches long. These are to be put together so as to form a rectangular rack, on the cross-pieces of which are laid very heavy binders' pasteboards, and on these, in an orderly arrangement, the specimens are to be kept. As the inside measurement is twenty-seven and one-half by eighteen inches, specimens of ordinary size may be laid in two ranks. One can keep the left-hand row for his personal herbarium, and the right-hand for duplicates; and the size of the whole article may be modified easily to suit one's needs. To keep out the dust curtains may easily be fastened on wire so as to slide readily at the front; and permanent curtains may be tastefully fastened to sides and back, so that the general appearance will be quite ornamental, and the good wife will no more complain of those everlasting roots and herbs.—F. D. KELSEY, *Helena, Montana.*

Erigeron Tweedyi, n. sp.—Whole plant (almost silvery) canescent with minute rather soft pubescence; caudex branching, bearing many rigid, erect slender stems a span high, sparingly branched near the summit, the branches monocephalous: radical leaves thickish and firm, broadly obovate-spatulate, abruptly acuminate, rather indistinctly callous-tipped, ½ to ¾ inch long by ⅓ to ½ inch wide, on slender petioles twice their length; stem leaves few and small spatulate-lanceolate: heads rather small; bracts of the involucre narrow lanceolate, greenish with somewhat scarious margins: achenia compressed, hirsute; pappus simple.—Belonging to the section containing *E. asperuginus* Gray, and of striking appearance for the genus. The crowded caudices and obovate canescent radical leaves much resemble those of some species of Eriogonum, and are unlike those of any Erigeron I know of. Under the microscope the hairs of the leaves, etc., have a singular appearance, being composed of two (or sometimes three) cells, the lower one being generally much shorter and of less diameter than the upper. Growing on rocky dry hills along Trail Creek, southwestern Montana, at an elevation of 6,000 feet. It is a peculiar pleasure to give this plant the name of its discoverer, Mr. Frank Tweedy, author of an excellent catalogue of the "Flora of Yellowstone Park."—WM. M. CANBY, *Wilmington, Del.*

EDITORIAL.

IN NO one thing do American botanists show more negligence than in the historical study of a research. It seems to us that the *first* duty of a student is to find out what has been done by others in the line of observation selected, and the second to correct and extend those observations. One can hardly go amiss in choosing a field of work; but he may waste a great deal of valuable time in doing exactly what others have done before, time which should be spent in adding to preceding knowl-